State	Name of the Station
Uttar Pradesh	Gorakhpur(NE), Lucknow(N), Agra Cantt(C), Kanpur Central(N), Allahabad(N), Varanasi (N), Moradabad (N), Aligarh (N), Jhansi (C), Ayodhya (N), Mughalsarai(E), Saharanpur(N), Bareilly(N), Faizabad(N), Meerut City(N), Izzatnagar Jn.(NE), Manduadih(NE), Gonda Jn.(NE), Deoria Sadar(NE), Rawatpur(NE), Mau Jn.(NE), Badshah Nagar(NE), Agra Fort(W), Basti(NE), Mathura Jn. (C), Tundla(N), Ballia(NE) (27)
Uttaranchal	Dehradun(N), Haridwar(N), Kathgodam(NE) (3)
West Bengal	Malda Town(E), New Jalpaiguri(NF), Howrah(E), Asansol(E), New Alipurduar(NF), Kharagpur(SE), Sealdah(E), Sonarpur(E), Midnapur(SE), Bandel(E), Barddhaman(E), Durgapur(E), Alipurduar Jn. (NF), Adra(SE), Bolpur(E), Nabadwip Dham(E), Cooch Behar(NF), Raniganj(E), Dum Dum(E) (19)

Exploitation of Mineral deposits in Bihar and Gujarat

319. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE:
SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Mineral deposits in Bihar and Gujarat are not being exploited properly;

(b) if so, whether Government have formulated any plan in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any financial assistance has been provided by Government to exploit these deposits during the last two years; and

(e) if so, the details thereof, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) to (c) As per information available with the Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM), a subordinate office of the Ministry of Mines, the mineral deposits of Bihar *viz.* limestone, mica, pyrites, quartzite and steatite are being

exploited. The mineral deposits in Gujarat *viz.* bauxite, chalk, dolomite, fireclay, limestone, kaolin, silica sand and lignite are being exploited on a large scale. The number of mines, mineral-wise in the States of Bihar and Gujarat as per the information available with IBM is given in the Statement (*See* below).

Government of India had announced the National Mineral Policy, 1993 for development of mining sector in India including the States of Bihar and Gujarat. The Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 was amended in January, 1994 and subsequently in December, 1999 followed by amendments in the Rules framed under the Act to make the legal framework investor friendly and hassle free. Similarly the policy for encouraging private sector investments including foreign direct investment has been increasingly liberalised over the years.

(d) and (e) Any Indian National or a Company as defined in sub-section (1) of Section 3 of the Companies Act, 1956 is free to exploit the mineral reserves after getting a mining lease in accordance with the provisions of Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 and Rules framed thereunder. No financial assistance is provided by the Central Government to exploit the mineral deposits.

Statement

Exploitation of Mineral Mines in Bihar and Gujarat

Existing Mines in the State of Bihar

Mineral	Number of Mines
Limestone	3
Mica	3
Pyrites	1
Quartzite	3
Steatite	1
Total:	11

Existing Mines in the State of Gujarat	
Mineral	Number of Mines
Lignite	2
Bauxite	81
Agate	1
Chalk	113
Clay (others)	2
Dolomite	29
Fireclay	29
Fluorite (graded)	1
Gypsum	3
Kaolin (total)	41
Laterite	1
Limestone	102
Ochre	2
Perlite	1
Quartz	7
Silica Sand	18
Steatite	2
Vermiculite	1
Total:	436

National Centre for Ocean information Hyderabad

320. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal for setting up of a Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services at Hyderabad is under consideration;

(b) if so, what is the estimated cost of the project and the stipulated time within which the project is to be completed; and

(c) what is the present status of the project?

THE MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) The Department of Ocean Development have established Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS) at Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh as an